

Renewed For Ministry (Zechariah 3:1-10)
Bill Gaultiere ~ [Lectio Divina Guides](#) ~ [SoulShepherding.org](#)

Guidelines: Protect confidentiality and follow the leader's prompts

Lectio Divina Rhythms/Process (Repeat three times):

- (a) Read the Scripture passage ("Lectio")
- (b) Reflect on the focus question below ("Meditatio")
- (c) Respond in quiet prayer/journaling ("Oratio")
- (d) Rest in God's invitation for you then pray/share out loud if you want ("Contemplatio")

Introduction: Joshua (not Moses' assistant) came with the first wave of exiles from Babylon returning to Jerusalem in 538 BC. He was the high priest who supported the rebuilding of the temple. The prophet Zechariah had a vision of Joshua standing in the heavens and Satan accuses him of sin, but the Lord advocates, forgives, and re-commissions him for ministry. Like him, all Christian workers struggle with sin and judgment till we look to Jesus Christ. At the cross he removed our sin in a single day! He rescues us as "a burning stick snatched from the fire." (In this text Joshua also foreshadows the coming of the Messiah and High Priest-King, who is referred to as the Branch, Vine, and Fig Tree. Also "Joshua" is the Hebrew equivalent of the Greek name "Jesus.")

Opening Prayer: In Christ... I am free of condemnation (inspired by Romans 8:1).

Read Scripture: Zechariah 3:1-10 (NIV)

1 Then he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the Lord, and Satan standing at his right side to accuse him. 2 The Lord said to Satan, "The Lord rebuke you, Satan! The Lord, who has chosen Jerusalem, rebuke you! Is not this man a burning stick snatched from the fire?"

3 Now Joshua was dressed in filthy clothes as he stood before the angel. 4 The angel said to those who were standing before him, "Take off his filthy clothes."

Then he said to Joshua, "See, I have taken away your sin, and I will put fine garments on you."

5 Then I said, "Put a clean turban on his head." So they put a clean turban on his head and clothed him, while the angel of the Lord stood by.

6 The angel of the Lord gave this charge to Joshua: 7 "This is what the Lord Almighty says: 'If you will walk in obedience to me and keep my requirements, then you will govern my house and have charge of my courts, and I will give you a place among these standing here.

8 "Listen, High Priest Joshua, you and your associates seated before you, who are men symbolic of things to come: I am going to bring my servant, the Branch. 9 ...I will remove the sin of this land in a single day.

10 "In that day each of you will invite your neighbor to sit under your vine and fig tree,' declares the Lord Almighty."

1st Reading: What is one word or phrase the Holy Spirit impresses on you? Meditate on that.

2nd Reading: Enter into the Scripture passage. What do you feel? What specific situation in your life today relates? Write down a prayer or pray quietly.

3rd Reading: What is God's personal invitation for you from the Scripture? You can write down what God may be saying to you or a prayer of thanks. Or rest quietly in God.